

MTF Formulary Management for Alpha Adrenergic Blockers for Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (alpha blockers)

Department of Defense Pharmacoeconomic Center

Uniform Formulary Decision: The Director of TMA approved the recommendations from the August 2005 DoD P&T Committee meeting regarding formulary status of the Alpha Adrenergic Blockers on the Uniform Formulary (UF) and Basic Core Formulary (BCF) as outlined below. Conversion from tamsulosin to a BCF or uniform formulary drug or establishment of medical necessity may commence 13 October 2005 and must be completed by 15 Feb 2006.

Uniform Formulary (UF) alpha blockers		Non-Formulary alpha blockers
alpha blockers on BCF MTFs <u>must</u> have on formulary	alpha blockers not on BCF MTFs <u>may</u> have on formulary	MTFs <u>must not</u> have on formulary
Terazosin (generic) Alfuzosin (Uroxatral)	Doxazosin (generic)	Tamsulosin (Flomax)

- Terazosin is the most prescribed alpha blocker in the MTF setting.
- All alpha blockers have similar efficacy and terazosin remains the most cost effective treatment.
- Alfuzosin (selective agent) is a BCF option for patients who cannot tolerate changes in blood pressure, heart rate, or peripheral vascular responsiveness seen with terazosin and doxazosin (non-selective agents)
- Patients currently taking any dose of tamsulosin should be converted to alfuzosin 10 mg once daily. Alfuzosin is only available as a 10 mg dose. No dose increase is necessary.
- Limit use of tamsulosin to patients intolerant to any UF alpha blockers. To prescribe tamsulosin, MTFs must use the medical necessity criteria established by the DoD P&T Committee available at: <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/medical-nonformulary.cfm>. A Microsoft Word version of the TMOP/TRRx Medical Necessity form adaptable for MTF use is available on RxNET.

alpha blockers Dose/Price Comparison at MTF	
Drug & Dosage Form	Weighted Ave cost per day (June 2005) ^{a/b}
Basic Core Formulary alpha blockers	
Terazosin	\$0.08 /day
Alfuzosin	\$0.66 /day
Other UF alpha blockers available for inclusion on MTF formularies	
Doxazosin	\$0.15/day
Non-formulary alpha blockers	
Tamsulosin	\$1.15 /day

a Actual price may vary slightly due to MTF-specific Prime Vendor discounts and/or fees

b MTFs are prohibited from entering into any incentive pricing agreements in any form with alpha blockers pharmaceutical manufacturer to receive additional discounts.

References

- For the full clinical review of the alpha blockers and for discussion about UF decisions, please log onto RxNET (the PEC's webforum) www.dodrxnet.org (under "File Library" forum, "DoD P&T Library" folder).
- Future drug classes under review by the DoD P&T Committee: www.pec.ha.osd.mil/PT_Committee.htm
- TRICARE website for information on the Uniform Formulary: www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy
- TRICARE Formulary Search Tool: www.tricareformularysearch.org

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